

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

Claims 1-7. (Cancelled)

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1, wherein said candidate plant disease-resistance gene is co-introduced by biolistics with a reporter gene~~ A method of identifying a plant disease-resistance gene comprising:

- (a) providing a plant tissue sample comprising a mutant disease-resistance gene;
- (b) co-introducing by biolistic transformation into said plant tissue sample a candidate plant disease-resistance gene and a reporter gene;
- (c) expressing said candidate plant disease-resistance gene and said reporter gene within said plant tissue sample; and
- (d) determining whether said plant tissue sample exhibits a disease-resistance response, whereby a response identifies a plant disease-resistance gene.

Claim 9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein expression of said reporter gene serves as an indicator for the viability of the transformed cells of said plant tissue sample.

Claim 10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said candidate plant disease-resistance gene and said reporter gene are both expressed under the control of a constitutive promoter.

Claim 11. (Cancelled)

Claim 12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8, wherein said reporter gene is the *Escherichia coli uidA* gene encoding  $\beta$ -glucuronidase (GUS).

Claim 13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said constitutive promoter is the 35S promoter from Cauliflower mosaic virus.

Claim 14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein differences in GUS activity are detected histochemically.

Claim 15. (Cancelled)